

**House File 2670 - Reprinted**

HOUSE FILE 2670  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 746)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 10, 2026)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to education, including by modifying provisions  
2 related to summative testing in schools and the educational  
3 program provided to students enrolled in kindergarten  
4 through grade twelve, and including applicability  
5 provisions.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph b,  
2 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 A set of core academic indicators in mathematics and reading  
5 in grades four, eight, and eleven, a set of core academic  
6 indicators in science and social studies in grades eight and  
7 ten, and another set of core indicators that includes but  
8 is not limited to graduation rate, postsecondary education,  
9 and successful employment in Iowa. Annually, the department  
10 shall report state data for each indicator in the condition of  
11 education report.

12 Sec. 2. Section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph b,  
13 subparagraph (2), subparagraph divisions (a), (b), (c), and  
14 (d), Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

15 (a) That all students enrolled in school districts ~~in~~  
16 ~~grades three through eleven~~ be administered ~~an assessment in~~  
17 ~~mathematics and English language arts, including reading and~~  
18 ~~writing, during the last quarter of the school year and all~~  
19 ~~students enrolled in school districts in grades five, eight,~~  
20 ~~and ten be administered an assessment in science during the~~  
21 ~~last quarter of the school year~~ the following assessments  
22 during the last quarter of the school year:

23 (i) In grades three through eleven, an assessment in  
24 mathematics and English language arts, including reading and  
25 writing.

26 (ii) In grades five, eight, and eleven, an assessment in  
27 science.

28 (iii) In grades eight and eleven, an assessment in social  
29 studies.

30 (b) That the assessment, at a minimum, assess the core  
31 academic indicators identified in this paragraph "b"; be  
32 aligned with the Iowa ~~common~~ core standards in both content  
33 and rigor; accurately describe student achievement and  
34 growth for purposes of the school, the school district, and  
35 state accountability systems; provide valid, reliable, and

1 fair measures of student progress toward college or career  
2 readiness; and meet the summative assessment requirements of  
3 the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. No. 114-95, if  
4 applicable.

5 (c) That the assessment be available for administration in  
6 both paper-and-pencil and computer-based formats and include  
7 assessments in mathematics, science, social studies, and  
8 English language arts, including reading and writing.

9 (d) That the assessment be peer-reviewed by an independent,  
10 third-party evaluator to determine that the assessment is  
11 aligned with the Iowa core academic standards, provides a  
12 measurement of student growth and student proficiency, and  
13 meets the summative assessment requirements of the federal  
14 Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. No. 114-95, if applicable.  
15 The assessment developed by the Iowa testing program within the  
16 university of Iowa college of education shall be adjusted as  
17 necessary to meet the requirements of this subparagraph (2) as  
18 determined by the peer review.

19 Sec. 3. Section 256.7, subsection 33, paragraph b, Code  
20 2026, is amended to read as follows:

21 *b.* Adopt rules to require school districts to adopt  
22 protocols for suicide prevention and postvention ~~and the~~  
23 ~~identification of adverse childhood experiences and strategies~~  
24 ~~to mitigate toxic stress response~~. The protocols shall be  
25 based on nationally recognized best practices.

26 Sec. 4. Section 256.9, subsection 49, paragraph b, Code  
27 2026, is amended to read as follows:

28 *b.* Convene an advisory group comprised of education  
29 stakeholders including but not limited to school district and  
30 accredited nonpublic school teachers, school administrators,  
31 higher education faculty who teach in the subjects for which  
32 the curriculum is being adopted, private sector employers,  
33 members of the boards of directors of school districts,  
34 and individuals representing the educational assessment  
35 providers. The task force shall review the national assessment

1 of educational progress standards and assessments used by  
2 other states, and shall consider standards identified as best  
3 practices in the field of study by ~~the national councils of~~  
4 ~~teachers of English and mathematics, the national council for~~  
5 ~~the social studies, the national science teachers association,~~  
6 and other recognized experts.

7 Sec. 5. Section 256.9, subsection 64, Code 2026, is amended  
8 to read as follows:

9 ~~64. Develop and distribute to school districts standards~~  
10 ~~of practice for equity coordinators employed by school~~  
11 ~~districts.~~ To provide consistency in training statewide, the  
12 director shall also develop and distribute to school districts  
13 a training program on free speech under the first amendment  
14 to the Constitution of the United States which shall be used  
15 by school districts to provide training pursuant to section  
16 279.75.

17 Sec. 6. Section 256.11, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2026,  
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 The state board shall adopt rules under [chapter 17A](#) and  
20 a procedure for accrediting all public and nonpublic schools  
21 in Iowa offering instruction at any or all levels from the  
22 prekindergarten level through grade twelve. The rules  
23 of the state board shall require that an age-appropriate,  
24 ~~multicultural, and gender-fair~~ approach is used by schools and  
25 school districts. The educational program shall be taught from  
26 an age-appropriate, ~~multicultural, and gender-fair~~ approach.  
27 ~~Global perspectives shall be incorporated into all levels of~~  
28 ~~the educational program.~~ The rules adopted by the state board  
29 pursuant to [section 256.17, Code Supplement 1987](#), to establish  
30 new standards shall satisfy the requirements of [this section](#) to  
31 adopt rules to implement the educational program contained in  
32 this section. The educational program shall be as follows:

33 Sec. 7. Section 256.11, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended  
34 to read as follows:

35 2. The kindergarten program shall include experiences

1 designed to develop ~~healthy emotional and social habits and~~  
2 growth in the language arts and communication skills, as well  
3 as a capacity for the completion of individual tasks, and  
4 protect and increase physical well-being with attention given  
5 to experiences relating to the development of life skills and,  
6 ~~subject to section 279.80, age-appropriate and research-based~~  
7 ~~human growth and development.~~ A kindergarten teacher shall be  
8 licensed to teach in kindergarten. An accredited nonpublic  
9 school must meet the requirements of this subsection only if  
10 the nonpublic school offers a kindergarten program; provided,  
11 however, that section 279.80 shall not apply to a nonpublic  
12 school.

13 Sec. 8. Section 256.11, subsection 3, paragraph a,  
14 subparagraph (5), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

15 (5) Health. The health curriculum shall include ~~the~~  
16 characteristics of communicable diseases all of the following:

17 (a) The characteristics of communicable diseases.

18 (b) Physical fitness.

19 (c) Nutrition.

20 Sec. 9. Section 256.11, subsection 4, paragraph a,  
21 subparagraph (5), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

22 (5) Health. The health curriculum shall include  
23 ~~age-appropriate and research-based information regarding the~~  
24 ~~characteristics of sexually transmitted diseases~~ all of the  
25 following:

26 (a) Age-appropriate and research-based information  
27 regarding the characteristics of sexually transmitted diseases.

28 (b) Physical fitness.

29 (c) Nutrition.

30 Sec. 10. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraphs e, j, and  
31 k, Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

32 e. Two additional units of mathematics. The two additional  
33 units of mathematics may include instruction related to ~~applied~~  
34 any of the following:

35 (1) Agriculture, which may be offered and taught through

1 dedicated units of coursework or through units of coursework  
2 that also meet the requirements of the coursework required  
3 under paragraph "h", subparagraph (1), subparagraph division  
4 (a).

5 (2) Applied sciences, technology, engineering, or  
6 manufacturing, including transportation, distribution,  
7 logistics, architecture, and construction, which may be offered  
8 and taught through dedicated units of coursework or through  
9 units of coursework that also meet the requirements of the  
10 coursework required under paragraph "h", subparagraph (1),  
11 subparagraph division (c).

12 (3) The state board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
13 17A to implement this paragraph.

14 j. (1) One unit of health education ~~which.~~

15 (a) The one unit of health education shall include  
16 instruction related to all of the following:

17 (i) Physical fitness.

18 (ii) Food and nutrition.

19 (iii) Personal health.

20 (b) The one unit of health education may include ~~personal~~  
21 ~~health; food and nutrition; environmental~~ instruction related  
22 to all of the following:

23 (i) Environmental health; ~~safety.~~

24 (ii) Safety and survival skills; ~~consumer.~~

25 (iii) Consumer health; ~~family.~~

26 (iv) Family life; ~~age-appropriate.~~

27 (v) Age-appropriate and research-based human growth and  
28 development that incorporates the standards established under  
29 section 279.50, subsection 3, paragraph "b"; ~~substance.~~

30 (vi) Substance use disorder and nonuse; ~~emotional and~~  
31 ~~social health; health.~~

32 (vii) Health resources; ~~cardiopulmonary.~~

33 (viii) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation; ~~and prevention.~~

34 (ix) Prevention and control of disease, including  
35 age-appropriate and research-based information regarding

1 sexually transmitted diseases.

2 (2) The state board, as part of accreditation standards,  
3 shall adopt curriculum standards for implementing the program  
4 in grades nine through twelve.

5 k. (1) One-half unit of personal finance literacy, which  
6 may be offered and taught through dedicated units of coursework  
7 or through units of coursework that also meet the requirements  
8 of the coursework required under paragraph "a", "b", "c", "d",  
9 "e", or "h". ~~The personal finance literacy curriculum shall, at~~  
10 ~~a minimum, address all of the following:~~

11 ~~(a) Savings, including emergency fund, purchases, and~~  
12 ~~wealth building.~~

13 ~~(b) Understanding investments, including compound and~~  
14 ~~simple interest, liquidity, diversification, risk return~~  
15 ~~ratio, certificates of deposit, money market accounts, single~~  
16 ~~stocks, bonds, mutual funds, rental real estate, annuities,~~  
17 ~~commodities, and futures.~~

18 ~~(c) Wealth building and college planning, including~~  
19 ~~long-term and short-term investing using tax-favored plans,~~  
20 ~~individual retirement accounts and payments from such accounts,~~  
21 ~~employer-sponsored retirement plans and investments, public and~~  
22 ~~private educational savings accounts, and uniform gifts and~~  
23 ~~transfers to minors.~~

24 ~~(d) Credit and debt, including credit cards, payday~~  
25 ~~lending, rent-to-own transactions, debt consolidation,~~  
26 ~~automobile leasing, cosigning a loan, debt avoidance, and the~~  
27 ~~marketing of debt, especially to young people.~~

28 ~~(e) Consumer awareness of the power of marketing on buying~~  
29 ~~decisions including zero percent interest offers; marketing~~  
30 ~~methods, including product positioning, advertising, brand~~  
31 ~~recognition, and personal selling; how to read a credit report~~  
32 ~~and correct inaccuracies; how to build a credit score; how to~~  
33 ~~develop a plan to deal with creditors and avoid bankruptcy; and~~  
34 ~~the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, codified at 15~~  
35 ~~U.S.C. §1692 — 1692p.~~

1 ~~(f) Financial responsibility and money management,~~  
2 ~~including creating and living on a written budget and balancing~~  
3 ~~a checkbook; basic rules of successful negotiating and~~  
4 ~~techniques; and personality or other traits regarding money.~~

5 ~~(g) Insurance, risk management, income, and career~~  
6 ~~decisions, including career choices that fit personality styles~~  
7 ~~and occupational goals, job search strategies, cover letters,~~  
8 ~~resumes, interview techniques, payroll taxes and other income~~  
9 ~~withholdings, and revenue sources for federal, state, and local~~  
10 ~~governments.~~

11 ~~(h) Different types of insurance coverage including~~  
12 ~~renters, homeowners, automobile, health, disability, long-term~~  
13 ~~care, identity theft, and life insurance; term life, cash~~  
14 ~~value and whole life insurance; and insurance terms such~~  
15 ~~as deductible, stop loss, elimination period, replacement~~  
16 ~~coverage, liability, and out-of-pocket.~~

17 ~~(i) Buying, selling, and renting advantages and~~  
18 ~~disadvantages relating to real estate, including adjustable~~  
19 ~~rate, balloon, conventional, government-backed, reverse, and~~  
20 ~~seller-financed mortgages.~~

21 (2) Units of coursework that meet the requirements of any  
22 combination of coursework required under paragraph "a", "b",  
23 "c", "d", "e", or "h", and that incorporate the curriculum  
24 required under subparagraph (1), shall be deemed to satisfy the  
25 offer and teach requirements of this paragraph "k".

26 Sec. 11. Section 256.11, subsection 9A, Code 2026, is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 9A. Beginning July 1, 2007, each school district shall  
29 have a qualified guidance counselor who shall be licensed  
30 by the board of educational examiners under subchapter VII,  
31 part 3. Each school district shall work toward the goal of  
32 having one qualified guidance counselor for every three hundred  
33 fifty students enrolled in the school district. The state  
34 board shall establish in rule a definition of and standards  
35 for an articulated sequential kindergarten through grade

1 twelve guidance and counseling program. The program shall  
2 be designed to ensure that the guidance counselor ~~can work~~  
3 works collaboratively with parents or guardians, students,  
4 teachers, support staff, and administrators to support the  
5 curricular goals of the school by offering responsive services  
6 that address the growth and development needs of students and  
7 the attainment of student competencies in academic, career, and  
8 social areas.

9 Sec. 12. Section 256.11, subsection 10, paragraph c,  
10 subparagraph (2), unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended  
11 to read as follows:

12 If, after having an opportunity to correct, if permitted, a  
13 school district is found to be in noncompliance with federal  
14 education laws including but not limited to the federal  
15 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, the federal  
16 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §1400  
17 et seq., as amended, the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964,  
18 chapter 216, [section 279.73](#), or [section 279.74](#), the director  
19 shall recommend, and the state board ~~may~~ shall do, one of the  
20 following within thirty days of the finding of noncompliance:

21 Sec. 13. Section 256.37, subsection 3, Code 2026, is amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 3. Students graduating from Iowa's education system must  
24 demonstrate competency in challenging subject matter, and must  
25 have learned to use their minds well, so they may be prepared  
26 for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive  
27 employment in a ~~global~~ Iowa's economy.

28 Sec. 14. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, paragraph h, Code  
29 2026, is amended by adding the following new subparagraphs:

30 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (02) The educational standards of  
31 section 256.11, subsection 2, related to the kindergarten  
32 program.

33 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (002) The educational standards of  
34 section 256.11, subsection 3, paragraph "a", subparagraph (5),  
35 related to the health curriculum.

1     NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (0002) The educational standards of  
2 section 256.11, subsection 4, paragraph "a", subparagraph (5),  
3 related to the health curriculum.

4     NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (4) The educational standards of section  
5 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph "k", related to the personal  
6 finance literacy curriculum.

7     Sec. 15. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, paragraph h,  
8 subparagraph (3), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

9         (3) The educational standards established in section  
10 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph "e", related to the use of  
11 instruction related to agriculture or applied sciences,  
12 technology, engineering, or manufacturing to fulfill a portion  
13 of the unit requirements related to mathematics.

14     Sec. 16. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, paragraph r, Code  
15 2026, is amended to read as follows:

16         r. Be subject to and comply with the requirements of section  
17 279.81 relating to prohibiting students from serving on any  
18 committees that determine, or provide recommendations related  
19 to, whether a material in a school library should be removed in  
20 the same manner as a school district.

21     Sec. 17. Section 256F.4, subsection 2, paragraphs p, r, and  
22 t, Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

23         p. Be subject to and comply with the requirements of section  
24 279.81 relating to prohibiting students from serving on any  
25 committees that determine, or provide recommendations related  
26 to, whether a material in a school library should be removed in  
27 the same manner as a school district.

28         r. Be subject to and comply with the requirements of  
29 section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph "e", relating to the  
30 use of instruction related to agriculture or applied sciences,  
31 technology, engineering, or manufacturing to fulfill a portion  
32 of the unit requirements related to mathematics in the same  
33 manner as a school district.

34         t. Be subject to and comply with the requirements of section  
35 256.11 relating to the human growth and development curriculum

1 for grades five through eight, and the health curriculum for  
2 grades nine through twelve, in the same manner as a school  
3 district.

4 Sec. 18. Section 256F.4, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended  
5 by adding the following new paragraphs:

6 NEW PARAGRAPH. *0g.* Be subject to and comply with the  
7 requirements of section 256.11, subsection 2, relating to the  
8 kindergarten program in the same manner as a school district.

9 NEW PARAGRAPH. *00g.* Be subject to and comply with the  
10 requirements of section 256.11, subsection 3, paragraph "a",  
11 subparagraph (5), relating to the health curriculum in the same  
12 manner as a school district.

13 NEW PARAGRAPH. *000g.* Be subject to and comply with the  
14 requirements of section 256.11, subsection 4, paragraph "a",  
15 subparagraph (5), relating to the health curriculum in the same  
16 manner as a school district.

17 NEW PARAGRAPH. *0s.* Be subject to and comply with the  
18 requirements of section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph "k",  
19 relating to the personal finance literacy curriculum in the  
20 same manner as a school district.

21 Sec. 19. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance  
22 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring  
23 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall  
24 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid  
25 received by the school district under section 257.16. This  
26 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed  
27 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of  
28 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding  
29 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act  
30 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school  
31 districts.

32 Sec. 20. APPLICABILITY. The following applies to school  
33 years beginning on or after July 1, 2027:

34 The portion of the section of this Act amending section  
35 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph "b", subparagraph (2), that

H.F. 2670

1 relates to the administration of assessments in social studies.